

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A system which performs preliminary emission before main emission in strobe light photographing, comprising:

5 a photometry unit which splits light reflected by an object to be photographed by preliminary emission into a plurality of regions and performs photometry;

a first calculation unit which calculates first photometry data from a photometry value obtained in a  
10 predetermined region out of a plurality of photometry values obtained by said photometry unit;

an object distance detection unit which detects object distance information on a distance to the object;

15 a second calculation unit which calculates proper second photometry data corresponding to the object distance information;

a third calculation unit which calculates third photometry data from calculation results of said first  
20 and second calculation units and a contribution corresponding to the object distance information and a precision of the object distance information; and

a control unit which controls an main emission amount and performs strobe light photographing on the  
25 basis of a calculation result of said third calculation unit.

2. The system according to claim 1, wherein said

third calculation unit determines the contribution from the calculation results of said first and second calculation units on the basis of at least one of the object distance information and precision information  
5 of the object distance information.

3. The system according to claim 1, wherein said first calculation unit calculates the first photometry data from the photometry value obtained in the predetermined region including a region where focus  
10 information is detected, out of the plurality of photometry values obtained from the plurality of regions.

4. The system according to claim 1, wherein the contribution is stored in a storage unit in advance.

15 5. The system according to claim 1, wherein the object distance information is detected from a position of a focusing lens out of lenses.

6. The system according to claim 1, wherein said control unit compares the calculation result of said  
20 third calculation unit and the calculation result of said first calculation unit, and when a difference is not more than a predetermined value, controls the main emission amount using the calculation result of said first calculation unit, and performs strobe light  
25 photographing.

7. A camera which controls a strobe light to execute preliminary emission before main emission, comprising:

a photometry unit which splits light reflected by an object to be photographed by preliminary emission into a plurality of regions and performs photometry;

a unit which generates first photometry data from  
5 a photometry value obtained in a predetermined photometry region out of a plurality of photometry values obtained by said photometry unit;

a unit which acquires object distance information on a distance to the object;

10 a unit which generates proper second photometry data corresponding to the object distance information;

a unit which generates third photometry data from the first photometry data, the second photometry data, and a contribution corresponding to the object distance  
15 information and a precision of the object distance information; and

a control unit which controls an main emission amount and performs strobe light photographing on the basis of the third photometry data.

20 8. The camera according to claim 7, wherein said third calculation unit determines the contribution on the basis of at least one of the object distance information and precision information of the object distance information.

25 9. The camera according to claim 7, wherein said first calculation unit calculates the first photometry data from the photometry value obtained in the

predetermined region including a region where focus information is detected, out of the plurality of photometry values obtained from the plurality of regions.

5 10. The camera according to claim 7, wherein the contribution is stored in a storage unit in advance.

11. The camera according to claim 7, wherein the object distance information is detected from a position of a focusing lens out of lenses.

10 12. The camera according to claim 7, wherein said control unit compares the third photometry data and the first photometry data, and when a difference is not more than a predetermined value, controls the main emission amount using the first photometry data, and  
15 executes strobe light photographing.

13. A method for controlling a strobe light of a camera to execute preliminary emission before main emission, comprising the steps of:

performing photometry by splitting light  
20 reflected by an object to be photographed by preliminary emission into a plurality of regions;  
generating first photometry data from a photometry value obtained in a predetermined photometry region out of a plurality of photometry values obtained  
25 by said photometry step;

acquiring object distance information on a distance to the object;

generating proper second photometry data  
corresponding to the object distance information;

generating third photometry data from the first  
photometry data, the second photometry data, and a  
5 contribution corresponding to the object distance  
information and a precision of the object distance  
information; and

controlling an main emission amount and performs  
strobe light photographing on the basis of the third  
10 photometry data.

14. The method according to claim 13, wherein said  
contribution is determined on the basis of at least one  
of the object distance information and precision  
information of the object distance information.

15 15. The method according to claim 13, wherein said  
first photometry data is obtained from the photometry  
value obtained in the predetermined region including a  
region where focus information is detected, out of the  
plurality of photometry values obtained from the  
20 plurality of regions.

16. The method according to claim 13, wherein the  
contribution is stored in a storage unit in advance.

17. The method according to claim 13, wherein the  
object distance information is detected from a position  
25 of a focusing lens out of lenses.

18. The method according to claim 13, wherein said  
controlling step further comprising the step of:

comparing the third photometry data and the first  
photometry data;

controlling the main emission amount using the  
first photometry data when a difference is not more  
5 than a predetermined value; and  
executing strobe light photographing.